

## MBPAC Meeting Minutes

Location: Maryland Department of Transportation, 7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, MD

Date: January 13, 2017

Time: 9:30AM – 11:30AM

### Attendees:

Marty Baker, Laura Beck, Eric Brenner, Tony Campbell, Thomas Curtis, Alison Flores, Robert Gaston, Heather Ersts, Robert Gaston, Steve Green, E. Scott Hansen, Katie Harris, Deborah Haynie, David Helms, Chris Hersl, Gregory Hinchliffe, Carol Kachadoorian, Jon Korin, Kim Lamphier, Karyn McAlister, Patrick McMahon, Steve Miller, Jon Morrison, Oluseyi Olugbenle, Diane Patterson, Erin Penniston, Kevin Racine, James Titus, John Wetmore, Charles Glass

#### I. Welcome/Introduction

- a. Eric Brenner, Chair of MD Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC)

#### II. Approval of October Minutes

October minutes were approved pending spelling correction of “brown back” lunches to “brown bag”

#### III. 2017 MBPAC Focus – One-MDOT Themed

- a. Eric Brenner/Oluseyi Olugbenle

The goal this year will be to focus on tangible efforts. Many different groups are represented by MBPAC’s members; this is a good opportunity for more coordination.

Oluseyi Olugbenle is a part of the MDOT Interagency Bicycle and Pedestrian Workgroup, and will be able to facilitate coordination and communication between them and MBPAC.

Meetings will be held at various TBU offices, including SHA, MTA, MVA and MAA. The less formal meetings in between quarterly meetings are good opportunities for interactions with the bike/pedestrian community and improve communication.

#### IV. Legislative Processes/Updates

- a. Sarah Hoyt, State Legislative Officer, MDOT Government Affairs, was unable to attend this meeting, Deborah Haynie, Federal Legislative Officer, MDOT, provided her update.

##### Federal

- Congressman Cummings to remain on Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- Congressman Ruppertsberger & Congressman Harris are on the House Appropriations Committee
- New Congressman Brown is on the House Committee on Natural Resources
- Senator Van Hollen has been appointed to the Senate Appropriations Committee

- Senator Cardin has been nominated to the Environment and Public Works Senate Committee and is the Head Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee.
- Congressman Delaney is promoting his repatriation bill (introduced during the last session of Congress) to raise money for the Highway Trust Fund and an Infrastructure bank.
- Elaine Chao's hearing for the Secretary of Transportation nomination was on January 11, 2017.
- Transportation measures will not be a part of the President's first 100-day priorities.
- FHWA's suspending approval of rectangular rapid flash beacons in MUTCD.
  - Removed because the MUTCD cannot require something that's proprietary to a single company, and this flash pattern has a patent.
  - Will not affect state MUTCDs.

#### State – Upcoming Bills

- Senator Zirkin & Delegate Lafferty (Senate Bill 0142/House Bill 0192) are sponsoring a bill to request a Task Force to Study Bicycle Safety on Maryland Highways.
- Senator Manno & Delegate Kramer's upcoming bill
  1. Clarify law and allow bicyclists to ride in crosswalks.
  2. Clarify current state law regarding HAWK lights.
  3. Opening up crash data for public use.
- Delegate Lam is sponsoring bill to prohibit rolling coal and House Bill 00051:
  - Tweaks the definition of electric/assisted motorized device
  - Might be excluding hover boards by requiring steering device.
- Delegate Korman will be introducing a bill to prohibit loading vehicles stopping/parking in bike lanes on state highways.

#### County & Local Upcoming Bills

- Montgomery County – “Appropriate Speed Bill” bill from Delegate Korman and Moon
  - Focuses on the built environment, speed & appropriate location. Gives county ability to reduce speeds by 5 mph in urban areas (to as low as 15 mph).
- Prince George's County bill: Universal bike education in county schools.
  - Would require bicycle education in PE classes for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grades.

Members also discussed the need to make data from State Police and the MVA accessible in order to improve analysis in the state.

#### V. MDOT TBU Reports

- a. Maryland Transit Administration (MTA):  
Patrick McMahon provided information on where bicycles are allowed on MTA facilities: folding bikes on all trains, weekend Penn line MARC cars, front racks of local & express buses, Light Rail, and Metro Subway. Patrick described the implementation steps to equip 1/3 of all MARC cars with two bike racks each over

the next year, with the assistance of a FY2017 Bikeways grant. By the fall of 2017, there should be at least 1 bike car on every MARC train. In the future, MTA plans to equip entire fleet with bike racks, with own funding or by seeking additional Bikeways grants. MTA is anticipating that the demand will be greater than the supply for quite a while, and will need to address this issue.

- MTA blog post about the bike racks on MARC passenger cars  
- <https://mta.maryland.gov/content/good-news-bike-lovers-who-ride-marc-train>
- Baltimore Sun article about the bike racks on MARC passenger cars  
- <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-marc-bicycle-cars-20170108-story.html>
- Washington Post article about the bike racks on MARC passenger cars  
- <http://wapo.st/2huwleo>

Members suggested having bike cars available for weekend trips to West Virginia (out Friday), and special events like BTWD. Members also requested that bike racks be added to private commuter bus contracts during the renewal process.

The MTA will begin construction on installing bike parking at 11 MARC, 16 Light Rail, and 9 Metro Subway stations, with funding from a separate Bikeways grant.

Baltimore Bikeshare launched on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 consisting of 21 dock locations, five of which are at Light Rail stations. The City plans to add 29 new bikeshare locations in the future, six of which will be at transit stations.

Shared bus/bike lanes for Pratt & Lombard streets, with further expansion proposed over the year. These routes will provide greater east-west connectivity, but primary users will be experienced cyclists. The North Avenue Rising TIGER grant will provide additional miles of bus-bike lanes and six new bikeshare locations.

- The MTA website info about Bus/Bike Lanes  
- <http://baltimorelink.com/infrastructure/dedicated-lanes-tsp>

b. State Highway Administration (SHA):

Tony Campbell discussed the launch of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Priority Areas (BPPA) program last August 2016. Eight BPPAs were designated, including six in Montgomery County, one in Prince George's County, and one in Tilghman.

Pedestrian Road Safety Audits (PRSA) had been stalled for a year and a half, but SHA just hired a new consultant to tackle backlog. PRSA processes involve reviewing intersections, crossing patterns, incident areas, etc. An updated report may be ready by the April MBPAC meeting.

MD Bike Route 32 and US Bike Route 11 are being signed.

SHA hopes to have the bicycle map ready by MBPAC's April meeting. SHA senior management, Assistant Secretary Glass, and county transportation and planning departments will all have to review. The map includes local and state roads in addition to trails. SHA has consulted Strava data in the creation of this map.

**Action item:** MBPAC representatives to alert their County transportation and planning departments, in addition to tourism bureaus, about forthcoming SHA bike map review.

c. The Secretary's Office (TSO):

Marty Baker reviewed the structure of MDOT, TSO, and OPCP. She explained the two priority areas of her Intermodal Policy and Programs team:

Development/Investment/Land Use and Network Integration. She also discussed how MDOT needs MBPAC's assistance in working with advocates and local agencies to ensure bicycle and pedestrian planning is incorporated into local plans & prioritization; selecting sustainable community and BPPA designations; updating Heritage Area plans; and updating the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (2019). In addition, MBPAC members can do public outreach at local level & with MPOs, and use their expertise to develop local capacities to improve pipeline for Bikeways, TAP, and Recreational Trail projects. MDOT will be doing workshops for these programs in March, one in Cambridge, the other in Hagerstown, and a webinar.

- March 2, 2017  
First Workshop: Dorchester Center for the Arts  
321 High Street  
Cambridge, Maryland 21613
- March 13, 2017  
Second Workshop: Washington County Free Library  
100 S. Potomac Street  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Oluseyi Olugbenle and Diane Patterson presented proposed updates to the MBPAC section of the website and a new Bike-Ped resources webpage.

**Action Item:** Send feedback to Oluseyi Olugbenle about essential items that would be helpful for you or your constituents to have on the resources webpage.

d. Other State Agencies/TBUs

Commerce/Tourism: A new Destination Maryland guide was published two weeks ago, which has resources for hiking and biking trails.

Maryland Department of Planning (MDP): Scott Hansen is working with TSO on mapping efforts for the Bikeways Program.

Maryland Department of Education (MDE) has a comprehensive school physical activity program. This could be a good opportunity to integrate the Safe Routes to Schools Program. This program is funded by the CDC and ACA.

There was general discussion about the need for ADA design best practices, rather than minimums.

Members spoke about the need to promote bicycle & pedestrian improvements, potentially on the MDOT website. They cited the example of the Soundwall Removal Project in College Park and the Construction Project of a new north-south trail connection in PG County, both funded through the Bikeways Program.

Members discussed the need to incorporate transportation alternatives in growing immigrant populations in Prince George's & Southern Montgomery Counties.

VI. Dates/Locations for 2017 Meetings

a. Eric Brenner/Oluseyi Olugbenle

- April 14, 2017, 9:30AM, The State Highway Administration, 707 N Calvert Street, 21 Building, Training Room 2, Baltimore, MD 21202
- July 14, 2017, 9:30AM, Maryland Transit Administration, 6 St. Paul Street, 9th Floor Conference Room, Baltimore, MD 21202
- October 20, 2017, 9:30 AM, Location TBD

VII. Upcoming Events

a. Eric Brenner/Oluseyi Olugbenle

- National Bike Summit – March 6-9 in Washington, D.C.
- Bike Maryland Bicycle Symposium – March 8, 2017 in Annapolis, MD
- Vision Zero Summit – March 31, 2017 in Washington, D.C.
- National Walking Summit – September 13-15 in St. Paul, MN

b. Other Updates

Katie Harris, from WABA, spoke about The Capital Trails Coalition, which consists of and private organizations, agencies, and citizen volunteers that seek to create a network of trails within Washington DC region.

Dangerous by Design report came out this week, which analyzes pedestrian safety in U.S. communities.

Meeting was adjourned at noon.